

IN THE CLAIMS

Upon entry of the present amendment, the status of the claims will be as is shown below. This listing of claims replaces all previous versions and listings of claims in the present application.

1. (Currently Amended) A battery pack apparatus, comprising:

a battery pack ~~including~~ comprising a plurality of rechargeable batteries arranged in parallel, ~~the rechargeable batteries~~ and having heat medium passages formed therebetween;

a heat insulation cover ~~formed from~~ comprising a heat insulation material ~~for covering~~ that covers a circumferential surface of the battery pack substantially entirely, ~~with~~ a supply passage and a discharge passage being provided between the heat insulation cover and the battery pack, the supply passage supplying a heat medium to the heat medium passages while the discharge passage ~~discharging~~ discharges the heat medium from the heat medium passages; and

a supply device ~~for supplying~~ that supplies the heat medium to the supply passage.

2. (Original) The battery pack apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein a covering layer formed by metal foil is provided on an outer surface of the heat insulation cover.

3. (Currently Amended) The battery pack apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a heating/cooling device having a heating device ~~for heating~~ that heats the heat medium and a cooling device ~~for cooling~~ that cools the heat medium.

4. (Currently Amended) The battery pack apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the cooling device comprises a heat exchanger ~~for introducing~~ that introduces a cooling medium so as to cool the heat medium.

5. (Currently Amended) The battery pack apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the heating device comprises any one of a PTC heater and a Peltier device ~~for heating~~ that heats the heat medium.

6. (Currently Amended) The battery pack apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a valve is provided at each of an entrance of the supply passage and an exit of the discharge passage, ~~the~~ each valve being capable of opening toward a direction of the flow of the heat medium, ~~the valve usually being forced to a closed position.~~

7. (Original) The battery pack apparatus according to claim 6, wherein a gas-escape passage is provided at an upper end of a space closed by the valve within the heat insulation cover.

8. (Currently Amended) The battery pack apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein a control unit ~~for controlling~~ that controls charge and discharge of the rechargeable batteries is arranged next to the battery pack and is accommodated in the heat insulation cover.

9. (Currently Amended) The battery pack apparatus according to claim 8, wherein an expanded space is formed in a region near and above the control unit in the space within the heat insulation cover to expand upward, and wherein ~~has an opening for opening from~~ the upper end of the expanded space to the outside is provided.

10. (Currently Amended) The battery pack apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the supply device and the heating/cooling device are arranged next to the battery pack and ~~is~~ accommodated in the heat insulation cover, and wherein a discharge side of the supply device is connected to the supply passage via the heating/cooling device.

11. (Currently Amended) The battery pack apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the supply device and the heating/cooling device are arranged next to the battery pack and ~~is~~ accommodated in the heat insulation cover, and wherein an intake side of the supply device is connected to the discharge passage via the heating/cooling device.

12. (Currently Amended) The battery pack apparatus according to claim 10,

wherein a drain passage is provided for draining drops of dew formed in the cooling device to the outside of the heat insulation cover ~~is provided~~.

13. (Currently Amended) The battery pack apparatus according to claim 10,

wherein a water absorbing sheet is attached to an outer surface of a duct for connecting the supply device and at least one of the supply passage or and the discharge passage, ~~and the supply device~~.

14. (Currently Amended) The battery pack apparatus according to claim 10,

wherein a duct for connecting the supply device and at least one of the supply passage or and the discharge passage, ~~and the supply device~~ is formed from a heat insulation material.

15. (Currently Amended) The battery pack apparatus according to claim 11,

wherein a drain passage is provided for draining drops of dew formed in the cooling device to the outside of the heat insulation cover ~~is provided~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The battery pack apparatus according to claim 11,

wherein a water absorbing sheet is attached to an outer surface of a duct for connecting the supply device and at least one of the supply passage-~~or~~ and the discharge passage, ~~and the supply device.~~

17. (Currently Amended) The battery pack apparatus according to claim 11,

wherein a duct for connecting the supply device and at least one of the supply passage-~~or~~ and the discharge passage, ~~and the supply device~~ is formed from a heat insulation material.